



## Climate change, extreme weather events, and us health impacts: What can we say?

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### Abstract:

**OBJECTIVE:** Address how climate change impacts on a group of extreme weather events could affect US public health. **METHODS:** A literature review summarizes arguments for, and evidence of, a climate change signal in select extreme weather event categories, projections for future events, and potential trends in adaptive capacity and vulnerability in the United States. **RESULTS:** Western US wildfires already exhibit a climate change signal. The variability within hurricane and extreme precipitation/flood data complicates identifying a similar climate change signal. **CONCLUSIONS:** Health impacts of extreme events are not equally distributed and are very sensitive to a subset of exceptional extreme events. Cumulative uncertainty in forecasting climate change driven characteristics of extreme events and adaptation prevents confidently projecting the future health impacts from hurricanes, wildfires, and extreme precipitation/floods in the United States attributable to climate change.

**Source:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/JOM.0b013e31817d32da>

### Resource Description

#### Communication: ☒

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience: ☒

audience to whom the resource is directed

Researcher

#### Early Warning System: ☒

resource focus on systems used to warn populations of high temperatures, extreme weather, or other elements of climate change to prevent harm to health

A focus of content

#### Exposure : ☒

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Extreme Weather Event

**Extreme Weather Event:** Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones, Wildfires

**Geographic Feature:** ☒

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

**Geographic Location:** ☒

resource focuses on specific location

United States

**Health Impact:** ☒

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Injury

**Intervention:** ☒

strategy to prepare for or reduce the impact of climate change on health

A focus of content

**Mitigation/Adaptation:** ☒

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation

**Model/Methodology:** ☒

type of model used or methodology development is a focus of resource

Outcome Change Prediction

**Population of Concern:** A focus of content

**Population of Concern:** ☒

populations at particular risk or vulnerability to climate change impacts

Low Socioeconomic Status

**Resource Type:** ☒

format or standard characteristic of resource

Review

**Timescale:** ☒

time period studied

Long-Term (>50 years)

## **Vulnerability/Impact Assessment:**

resource focus on process of identifying, quantifying, and prioritizing vulnerabilities in a system

A focus of content